CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



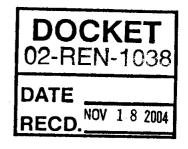
Implementation of Renewables Investment Plan Legislation (Public Utilities Code Sections 381, 383.5, and 445; [SB 1038])

- ) Docket No. 02-REN-1038
- ) Renewable Energy Program
- ) NOTICE OF COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
- ) RE: Pilot Performance-Based Incentive Program for the Emerging Renewables Program and other changes to the Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook

# Notice of Committee Workshop Renewables Committee

The California Energy Commission's Renewables Committee (Committee) will conduct a workshop to seek public comment on a proposed pilot Performance-Based Incentive program and other changes to the *Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook*. Commissioner John L. Geesman is the Presiding Member of the Committee and Commissioner Jackalyne Pfannenstiel is the Associate Member. The Committee workshop will be held as follows:

> December 1, 2004 1:30 p.m. CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION 1516 Ninth Street First Floor, Hearing Room A Sacramento, California (Wheelchair Accessible)



Audio from this meeting will be broadcast over the Internet. For details, please go to: www.energy.ca.gov/realaudio/

Other Commissioners may attend this workshop.

## Purpose of the Workshop

The workshop will solicit public input on a proposal to implement a Pilot Performance-Based Incentive (PBI) program for photovoltaic (PV) generating systems under the Emerging Renewables Program (ERP) and other changes to the *Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook*.<sup>1</sup>

On September 27, 2004, the Energy Commission staff held a public workshop to initiate discussion on a proposed "strawman" for a pilot PBI program. After considering the public comments submitted in response to the staff workshop, the Committee directed the staff to develop a Pilot PBI program and to prepare proposed guidelines to implement this pilot program. These proposed guidelines are included in the draft *Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook, Fourth Edition*, and will be discussed at the Committee Workshop along with other proposed changes to the *Guidebook*. Other notable changes to the *Guidebook* include:

- Revised Application Process and Forms
- Test Protocol for Eligible Inverters
- Elimination of Time Extensions

The Committee developed a *Decision Document* outlining its decisions and rationale for the proposed Pilot PBI program. The Pilot BPI program *Decision Document* and the draft *Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook* containing the proposed Pilot PBI program will be available on the Energy Commission's website on Friday, November 19, 2004, at:

#### www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/emerging\_renewables.html

To obtain hard copies of the draft *Guidebook* and the *Decision Document*, please call Janet Preis at (916) 654-4524 or e-mail her at [jpreis@energy.state.ca.us].

Interested parties are encouraged to review the draft *Guidebook* and *Decision Document* and to attend the Committee workshop and/or to submit comments for the Committee's consideration. Following the Committee workshop and consideration of public comments, the Committee will make any necessary changes to the draft *Guidebook* and recommend its adoption at the Energy Commission's regularly scheduled Business Meeting on January 5, 2005.

## Background

The ERP was created to help develop a self-sustaining market for renewable energy systems that supply on-site electricity in California. The ERP seeks to reduce the cost of emerging renewable energy systems to consumers, stimulate demand and increase sales of systems. In turn, increased sales are expected to encourage manufacturers, sellers, and installers to expand operations, improve distribution, and reduce system costs. Currently operating under the direction of Public Resources Code section 25744,

<sup>1</sup> Draft Fourth Edition of the Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook, # P500-03-001F2, December 2004.

the ERP has provided nearly \$170 million in rebates for the installation of almost 11,000 systems since 1998.

Public Resources Code section 25744 authorizes the Energy Commission to develop a program that provides preference to systems based on their performance. On October 20, 2004, the Energy Commission released its *Integrated Energy Policy Report, 2004 Update*,<sup>2</sup> outlining the Energy Commission's support for performance-based incentive programs for PV. As noted in the report, the Energy Commission will use the results of a pilot PBI to shape any performance-based incentives going forward.

The Energy Commission encourages interested parties to participate in the process of refining the revised Pilot PBI program. Interested parties are invited to review the proposal and provide oral and/or written comments at the workshop. Parties providing written comments are asked to provide an original and 21 copies of their comments. Parties may also file a single copy electronically with the Docket Unit and follow up with an original copy by mail. Parties providing written comments at the workshop are asked to submit them at the beginning of the workshop. Written comments will be considered following the workshop if they are received by close of business on December 3, 2004. Written comments on the staff's proposal should be submitted to:

California Energy Commission Re: Docket No. 02-REN-1038 Docket Unit, MS-4 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814-5504 e-mail: docket@energy.state.ca.us

All written materials will be filed with the Docket Unit and will become part of the public record.

### **Public Participation**

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser, Margret J. Kim, provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you would like information on how to participate in this workshop, please contact the Public Adviser's Office by phone at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at [pao@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate in this workshop, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

<sup>2</sup> Integrated Energy Policy Report, 2004 Update, (#100-04-006 CTF), pp. 44-45, <www.energy.ca.gov/energypolicy/index.html>.

If you have technical questions of the subject matter of this notice, please call Kate Zocchetti at (916) 653-4710 or e-mail her at [kzocchet@energy.state.ca.us]. News media inquiries should be directed to Claudia Chandler, Assistant Executive Director, at (916) 654-4989.

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John L. Geesman Commissioner and Presiding Member Renewables Committee

Jackalyne Pfannenstiel Commissioner and Associate Member Renewables Committee

Mail List: Emerging Renewables

Note: California Energy Commission's formal name is State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.